

AMENDMENTS**In the Claims:**

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22 wherein the one or more acrylamide monomer units have at least one amide moiety in the polymer backbone, in the polymer side chains, or in both.
3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein when the amide moiety is in the side chain then the monomer is free of amine linkages.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein said one or more acrylamide monomer units are selected from the group consisting of N,N dimethylacrylamide, N,N diethylacrylamide, N-isopropylacrylamide, acryloyl morpholin, and mixtures thereof.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein said protective polymer composition comprises at least 30 percent by weight of water.
- 8-14. (Canceled)
15. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein said polymer further comprises at least 25 mole percent of one or more non-amide monomer(s).
16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein said anionic monomer is selected from the group consisting of carboxylic acids, di-carboxylic acids, sulfonic acids and phosphonic acids.
18. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein said polymer further comprises from 1 to 50 mole percent of one or more hydrophobic monomers.
19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein said polymer further comprises from 0.1 to 20 mole percent of at least one hydroxy alkyl urea monomer.
20. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein said polymer composition further comprises from 5 to 70 percent by weight of at least one surfactant.
21. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein the protective polymer composition further comprises one or more ingredients selected from the group consisting of surfactants, builders, ion exchangers, alkalies, anticorrosion materials, antiredeposition materials, optical brighteners, fragrances, dyes, chelating agents, enzymes, whiteners, brighteners, antistatic agents, sudsing control agents, solvents, hydrotropes, bleaching agents, perfumes, bleach precursors, water, buffering agents, soil removal agents, soil release agents, softening agents, opacifiers, inert diluents, buffering agents, corrosion inhibitors, graying inhibitors, stabilizers, humectants, anti-microbial agents, and fungicides.

22. (Currently amended) A method of protecting a substrate from environmental factors comprising:

forming a protective polymer composition, said polymer composition having a water soluble polymer having at least ten mole percent of one or more mono- or di-alkyl acrylamide monomer units, and one or more anionic monomers, wherein said one or more acrylamide monomer units is free of amine linkages in side chains; and

applying said protective composition to the substrate,

wherein the substrate is selected from the group consisting of glass, metal, wood, ceramic, plastics, vinyl, dishware, silverware, flooring, tile, cement, leather, paper, fiber-board, carpet and cardboard, fiber glass and concrete.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein said protective composition is applied to said substrate by spraying, immersing and/or brushing.

24. (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein said protective composition is aqueous-based.

25. (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein said protective composition is formulated as a laundry detergent, a dishwasher detergent, a fabric softener, a rinse aid, an anti-wrinkle spray, a hard-surface cleaner/disinfectant, a personal care product, a water-treatment, a concrete additive, or a metal-working fluid.

26. (Previously presented) A surface protection composition comprising:

a polymer having at least five mole percent, based on the total mole percent of the polymer, of one or more amide monomer units and from 0.1 to 20 mole percent of at least one hydroxy alkyl urea monomer,

wherein the amide monomer(s) is free of amine linkages in side chains.